ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides epitope-tagged mammalian recombinant Growth Arrest Specific Gene 6 (Gas6) proteins or polypeptides that retain their biological activity of Gas6, including a novel method of generating and purifying the aforesaid proteins or polypeptides. Such biologically active epitope-tagged Gas6 proteins or polypeptides can be used when the presence of Gas6 is required and/or when Gas6 antagonists and receptors need to be identified. Prior to being expressed from a mammalian cell, the recombinant Gas6 protein or polypeptide is tagged with either Flag or polyhistidine to the C-terminus. After expression, the protein or polypeptide is purified in a single step affinity purification using either anti-Flag antibody resin or nickle resin. The purified epitope-tagged mammalian recombinant Gas6 protein or polypeptide maintains its biological activity and can be used thereafter.